

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 17177 270757Z

11/64
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DEAE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06

NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01 IGA-02 AID-05 EB-07 AGRE-00 SS-15

SP-02 DODE-00 HEW-04 /111 W
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R 261220Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9730
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
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AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY RANGOON
USMISSION GENEVA JQRIT

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (GARBLED TEXT)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, IN
SUBJECT: AUTHORIZING GROWTH OF BRACTEATUM POPPY IN THE US

REF: BANGKOK 32086

1. THE VIEW POINT FROM INDIA - A LEGAL PRODUCER OF OPIUM
FOR THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET - IS OF COURSE DIFFERENT FROM
THAT OF COUNTRIES TRYING TO ERADICATE OPIUM CULTIVATION.
WE NONETHELESS BELIEVE THAT US ENTRY INTO THE MARKET AS A
SUPPLIER COULD ALSO CAUSE ADVERSE REACTION HERE AS THE FACTS
OF THE WORLD OPIUM SUPPLY SITUATION BECOME KNOWN.

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2. DURING RECENT CALLS OF SN/MOFFICER CHES ES ON SENIOR GOI NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICIALS JASJIT SINGH AND M.G. ABROL, IT WAS EVIDENT THAT THE INDIAN OFFICIALS WERE NOT AWARE OF PROSPECT OF EXCESS WORLD PRODUCTION OF LEGAL OPIUM. GOI HAS EXPANDED LICENSED ACREAGE ONCE AGAIN THIS YEAR, AND SINGH LOOKED FORWARD TO DAY WHEN CODEINE FROM GOI'S NEW NEEMUCH PLANT COULD BE EXPORTED "TO MEET THE WORLD'S GROWING NEED." HE ALSO TOLD CHESHES AND EMBOFF THAT GOI HAD REACHED THE FINAL DECISION-MAKING STAGE ON THE PROPOSED POPPY STRAW HAD BEEN EXPORTED FOR PROCESSING LAST YEAR, INTAKE OF INDIAN PLANT WOULD BE DOUBLE THAT ANUNT.

3. THESE CARIOUS EFFORTS TO EXPAND INDIAN SUPPLY OF OPIUM AND DERIVATIVES COME IN RESPONSE TO INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE, MOST PARTICULARLY FROM THE UNIED SATES. THE USG CONVEYED THE URGENT REQUEST OF A US DRUG COMPANY FOR INCREASED OPIUM SUPPLY AS RECENTLY AS THE MEETING LAST MARCH OF THE INDO-US SUBCOMMISSION ON ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS. INDIAN OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN PLEASED TO CALL OUR ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT THAT REQUEST HAS BEEN NEJM

4. WE BELIEVE THAT AT LEAST BY THE TIME OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS NEXT FEBRAURY, IF NOT BEFORE, THE GOI WILL DECOME AAARE OF E CHANGE IN THE SUPPLY PICTURE. HAVING SO RECENTLY EXPERIENCED CONSUMR PRESSURES FOR INCREASED PRODUCTION AND INVESTED CONSIDERABLE RESURCES IN A
LECIATINR IT, THE INTRODUCTION OF US PRODUCTION AT THIS POINT WOULD PROBABLY BE SEEN AS HIGHLY DISRUPTIVE TO INDIA'S RADITIONAL SUPPLIER POSIIN AND ECONOMICALLY HARMFUL TO INDIA IN UNDERMINING ITS OWN INVESTMENT IN MODERATELY EXPANDED PRODUCTION.
SCHNEIDER

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